

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To:
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WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY
(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

Date of mailing (day/month/year)	24. 5. 2005
FOR FURTHER ACTION See paragraph 2 below	
International application No. PCT/JP2005/004850	International filing date (day/month/year) 11.03.2005
Priority date (day/month/year) 12.03.2004	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC Int.Cl.7 H04N7/30, 7/32	
Applicant CANON KABUSHIKI KAISHA	

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- Box No. II Priority
- Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. FURTHER ACTION

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Date of completion of this opinion 09.05.2005	
Name and mailing address of the ISA/JP Japan Patent Office 3-4-3, Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8915, Japan	Authorized officer Michiharu SUGAHARA Telephone No. +81-3-3581-1101 Ext. 3541
5C 3241	

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
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International application No.
PCT/JP2005/004850

Box No. I Basis of the opinion

1. With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
 This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - a. type of material
 a sequence listing
 table(s) related to the sequence listing
 - b. format of material
 in written format
 in computer readable form
 - c. time of filing/furnishing
 contained in the international application as filed.
 filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
 furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
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Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
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1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims <u>1-16</u>	YES
	Claims <u>17-20</u>	NO

Inventive step (IS)	Claims	YES
	Claims <u>1-20</u>	NO

Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims <u>1-20</u>	YES
	Claims	NO

2. Citations and explanations

The following documents have been considered for the purpose of this report.

- D1: JP 7-95571 A (OKI Electric Industry Co., Ltd.)
1995.04.07, whole document (Family: None)
- D2: JP 3-6187 A (MITSUBISHI DENKI KABUSHIKI KAISHA)
1991.01.11, whole document (Family: None)
- D3: JP 9-149421 A (OKI Electric Industry Co., Ltd.)
1997.06.06, whole document
& EP 763944 A2 & US 6169821 B1
- D4: JP 11-275585 A (International Business Machines Corp.)
1999.10.08, whole document
& US 6307886 B1
- D5: JP 10-23411 A (SONY Corporation)
1998.01.23, whole document
& US 5982435 A1
- D6: JP 10-126794 A (SONY United Kingdom Limited)
1998.05.15, whole document
& GB 2318244 A
- D7: JP 2002-34043 A (CANON KABUSHIKI KAISHA)
2002.01.31, whole document
& US 2002/0031182 A1

Claims 17-20

The subject matter of claims 17-20 does not appear to be novel with respect to D1-D4 cited in the ISR.

D1-D4 disclose a moving image coding apparatus which performs inter-frame prediction from an intra-coded frame, and locally decodes only intra-coded frames (see [0038]-[0040] and Fig.10 of D1, claim and Fig.2 of D2, Fig.8 of D3, Fig.5 of D4).

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Supplemental Box

In case the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient.

Continuation of: V.2

Claims 1-16

The subject matter of claims 1-16 does not appear to involve an inventive step in view of D1-D7 cited in the ISR.

D5 and D6 disclose an image coding apparatus which performs a discrete wavelet transformation (DWT) to blocks obtained by subtracting the predicted data from the block image data (see Fig.5 of D5, Fig.1 of D6). And, as disclosed in D7, rounding down coded data from a least significant bit to adjust an amount of code data is a well-known technique in the field of DWT coding (see [0079]). Therefore, it is easy for the person skilled in the art to use DWT and to round down coded data from a least significant bit in D1-D4.